NATURAL RESOURCES
RANKING DEMOCRAT

ENERGY AND COMMERCE

EDWARD J. MARKEY
7TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

2108 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2107 (202) 225-2836

#### **DISTRICT OFFICES:**

5 HIGH STREET, SUITE 101 MEDFORD, MA 02155 (781) 396–2900

188 CONCORD STREET, SUITE 102 FRAMINGHAM, MA 01702 (508) 875-2900

http://markey.house.gov

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2107
December 1, 2011

Christoph Rudolf
President and CEO
Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation
100 Hero Dr.
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Dear Mr. Rudolf:

Bisphenol A (BPA) is a substance used to make polycarbonate plastic, which is often used to make shatter resistant food containers. BPA is also used in the production of certain coatings for metal food packaging, such as canned containers and metal jar lids, including jars of baby food. Recently, there has been increase in public concern about the health impacts that exposure to BPA may have, particularly for infants and young children, if BPA were to leach from the packaging material and be consumed. As a result of this concern, major manufacturers of baby bottles and sippy cups have completely abandoned the use of BPA in manufacturing these infant and children products. Recently, several companies who manufacture infant formula and baby food have made public statements demonstrating a similar shift away from the use of BPA in these products. To better understand and clarify the nature of this manufacturing change, I respectfully request that you respond to the following questions no later than close of business on December 9, 2011.

- 1. Does your company currently use BPA in packaging for baby or toddler food? If so, what percentage of your company's baby food contains BPA? What percentage of your company's toddler food contains BPA?
- 2. For those products that are packaged in materials that contain BPA, please describe the type of packaging that is used (i.e. glass jars with metal lids, plastic containers etc). What percentage of your baby food and what percentage of your toddler food brand is contained in each type of the described packaging?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Avenel Joseph of my staff at 202-225-2836.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey

November 30, 2011

Stephen Golsby President, CEO, and Director Mead Johnson Nutrition Company 2701 Patriot Blvd. Glenview, IL 60026

Dear Mr. Golsby:

Historically, epoxy resins and polycarbonate plastic coatings made with the chemical bisphenol A (BPA) have been used in the lining of metal food and beverage containers, including cans of infant formula. Recently, there has been increase in public concern about the health impacts that exposure to BPA may have, particularly for infants and young children, if BPA were to leach from the packaging material and be consumed. As a result of this concern, major manufacturers of baby bottles and sippy cups have completely abandoned the use of BPA in manufacturing these infant and children products. Recently, your company has made public statements demonstrating a similar shift away from the use of BPA in the lining of canned infant formulas. I applaud your company's leadership in announcing such a shift. To better understand and clarify the nature of this manufacturing change, I respectfully request that you respond to the following questions no later than close of business on December 8, 2011.

- 1. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of canned liquid baby formula? If so, what percentage of your liquid formula still contains BPA?
- 2. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of powdered baby formula? If so, what percentage of your powdered formula still contains BPA?
- 3. What percentage of your company's infant formula sales are composed of liquid formula?
- 4. Does your company currently use BPA in packaging for baby and toddler food? If so, what percentage of your company's baby food contains BPA? What percentage of your company's toddler food contains BPA?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Avenel Joseph of my staff at 202-225-2836.

Sincerely,

Colvered of Markey Edward J. Markey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Call to Enfamil help center on November 16, 2011: 1-800-BABY123 "In September 2011, the company underwent a shift to new packaging. The cans and can liners of Enfamil products do not include BPA as a component."

November 30, 2011

Joseph Papa Perrigo Company Chairman, President, and CEO 515 Eastern Ave. Allegan, MI 49010

Dear Mr. Papa:

Historically, epoxy resins and polycarbonate plastic coatings made with the chemical bisphenol A (BPA) have been used in the lining of metal food and beverage containers, including cans of infant formula. Recently, there has been increase in public concern about the health impacts that exposure to BPA may have, particularly for infants and young children, if BPA were to leach from the packaging material and be consumed. As a result of this concern, major manufacturers of baby bottles and sippy cups have completely abandoned the use of BPA in manufacturing these infant and children products. Recently, many companies who manufacture infant formula have made public statements demonstrating a similar shift away from the use of BPA in the lining of canned infant formulas. In addition, Kroger, one of the companies PBM Products supplies store-brand infant formula for, has made public statements that they have begun a process to remove BPA in the lining of all corporate brand canned goods. To better understand and clarify the nature of this manufacturing change, I respectfully request that you respond to the following questions no later than close of business on December 8, 2011.

- 1. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of canned liquid baby formula? If so, what percentage of your liquid formula still contains BPA?
- 2. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of powdered baby formula? If so, what percentage of your powdered formula still contains BPA?
- 3. What percentage of your company's infant formula sales are composed of liquid formula?
- 4. Does your company currently use BPA in packaging for baby and toddler food? If so, what percentage of your company's baby food contains BPA? What percentage of your company's toddler food contains BPA?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Avenel Joseph of my staff at 202-225-2836.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey

cc: Paul B. Manning, CEO, PBM Holding

<sup>1</sup> http://www.thekrogerco.com/documents/Kroger%20Information%20on%20BPA.pdf

November 30, 2011

Miles White Chairman and CEO Abbott Nutrition 901 Centerville Rd Sturgis, Michigan 49091

Dear Mr. White:

Historically, epoxy resins and polycarbonate plastic coatings made with the chemical bisphenol A (BPA) have been used in the lining of metal food and beverage containers, including cans of infant formula. Recently, there has been increase in public concern about the health impacts that exposure to BPA may have, particularly for infants and young children, if BPA were to leach from the packaging material and be consumed. As a result of this concern, major manufacturers of baby bottles and sippy cups have completely abandoned the use of BPA in manufacturing these infant and children products. Recently, your company has made public statements demonstrating a similar shift away from the use of BPA in the lining of canned infant formulas. I applaud your company's leadership in announcing such a shift. To better understand and clarify the nature of this manufacturing change, I respectfully request that you respond to the following questions no later than close of business on December 8, 2011.

- 1. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of canned liquid baby formula? If so, what percentage of your liquid formula still contains BPA?
- 2. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of powdered baby formula? If so, what percentage of your powdered formula still contains BPA?
- 3. What percentage of your company's infant formula sales are composed of liquid formula?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Avenel Joseph of my staff at 202-225-2836.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See http://abbottnutrition.com/news/pressReleaseDetail.aspx?ContentTitle=abbott-leads-by-achieving-bpa-free-status-for-its-infant-formulas&year=2011

November 30, 2011

Maryland Knox CEO, Nestlé Nutrition North America Gerber Products Company 12 Vreeland Rd. Florham Park, NJ 07932,

Dear Ms. Knox:

Historically, epoxy resins and polycarbonate plastic coatings made with the chemical bisphenol A (BPA) have been used in the lining of metal food and beverage containers, including cans of infant formula. Recently, there has been increase in public concern about the health impacts that exposure to BPA may have, particularly for infants and young children, if BPA were to leach from the packaging material and be consumed. As a result of this concern, major manufacturers of baby bottles and sippy cups have completely abandoned the use of BPA in manufacturing these infant and children products. Recently, your company has made public statements demonstrating a similar shift away from the use of BPA in the lining of canned infant formulas. I applaud your company's leadership in announcing such a shift. To better understand and clarify the nature of this manufacturing change, I respectfully request that you respond to the following questions no later than close of business on December 8, 2011.

- 1. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of canned liquid baby formula? If so, what percentage of your liquid formula still contains BPA?
- 2. Does your company currently use BPA in the liners of powdered baby formula? If so, what percentage of your powdered formula still contains BPA?
- 3. What percentage of your company's infant formula sales are composed of liquid formula?
- 4. Does your company currently use BPA in packaging for baby and toddler food? If so, what percentage of your company's baby food contains BPA? What percentage of your company's toddler food contains BPA?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Avenel Joseph of my staff at 202-225-2836.

Sincerely,

Edward I Markey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See http://news.gerber.com/pr/gerber/bpa-insight-and-faq-s-158818.aspx